Question Tag

A question tag is a construction in which an interrogative element is added to a declarative or an imperative clause. The resulting speech act comprises an assertion paired with a request for confirmation. For instance, the tag question:

"You're John, aren't you?"

In grammar, a question tag is a very short clause at the end of a statement which changes the statement into a question.

Sentence Pattern

If the sentence is -ve, the tag is usually +ve as in the example below:

"You didn't tell him, did you?"

If the sentence is +ve, the tag is usually -ve as in the example below:

"You told him, didn't you?"

12 Rules of Question Tag

Rules	Examples
After "Let's", the tag begins with "shall".	Let's invite the neighbors over for dinner on the weekend, shall we?
Use "Aren't I" in tags to mean "I'm not".	I'm on time, aren't I?
Use "Won't" for polite request tags.	You'll bring the other things, won't you?
Use "Will" or "Would" with imperative sentences i.e. commands.	• Wait here until I return, will you? • Wait here until I return, would you?
Use "mustn't" with the modal "must".	This must be the address, mustn't it?
2 endings are possible when "have" is the main verb of the sentence.	• You've got enough money, haven't you? (UK English) • You've got enough money, don't you? (NA English)
Use pronouns for people, not proper names, in question tags.	• Paul is a good tennis player, isn't he? • Robin has a good job, hasn't he?

Use "It" in the question tag when the sentence includes "This" or "That".	This is your pen, isn't it?
Use "They" in a question tag when the sentence includes "These" or "Those".	Those are your sandals, aren't they?
Use "There" in a question tag when the sentence includes "There", plus a form of "Be".	There's a lot of work to do today, isn't it?
Use "They" in a question tag when the sentence includes indefinite pronouns (Nobody, no one, someone, somebody, everyone, everybody).	• Everyone is here now, aren't they? • Nobody has eaten yet, have they?
Use "didn't" in a question tag when the sentence includes the verb "used to".	You used to go skating very often, didn't you?

Noun

Nouns are naming words that are used to name people, places, animals, objects & ideas. In a sentence, nouns perform different roles. It can play the role of subject, direct object, indirect object, subject complement, object complement, appositive, or adjective. Also, nouns can function as adjectives & verbs.

Examples of Noun

Types	Examples
People	Rohit, Paul, Shally, Person, Man, Woman, Girl, The President.
Places	Cuttack, Bhubaneshwar, Mumbai, Ganga, Classroom, Swimming Pool.
Animals/Birds/Aquatic animals/Reptiles	Tiger, Deer, Lizard, Ostrich, Bear, Duck, Cat, Fish, etc.
Ideas	Inventions, Evolutions, Extinction, Discussions, Conclusions, Arguments, Destruction.
Objects/Things	Ball, Car, Laptop, Bag, Books, etc.

Types of Noun

Types	Definitions	Examples
Proper Noun	It's the name of some particular person or place.	Ram, Sita, Delhi, etc.
Common Noun	It's a name given in common to every person or thing of the same kind.	Boy, Girl, Teacher, etc.
Collective Noun	It's the name of a group, persons, or things.	Army, Committee, Crowd, etc.
Abstract Noun	It's a noun denoting an idea, quality, or state rather than a concrete object.	Strength, Innocence, Fear, Judgement, etc.
Material Noun	It's the name given to the material, substance, or things made up of the alloy.	Cotton, Gold, Silver, Steel, etc.

Noun Gender

Types	Definitions	Examples
Masculine Gender	It's a noun that denotes a male figure.	Man, Boy, Tiger, Lion, Son, etc.
Feminine Gender	It's a noun that denotes a female figure.	Woman, Girl, Nature, Lioness, etc.
Common Gender	It's a noun that denotes either a male or a female.	Parent, Child, Student, Cousin, etc.
Neuter Gender	It's a noun that denotes a thing without life, neither male, nor female.	Book, Pen, etc.

Noun Number

Types	Definitions	Examples
Singular Noun	It's a noun that denotes 1 person or thing.	Pen, Cow, Boy, etc.
Plural Noun	It's a noun that denotes more than 1 person or thing.	Pens, Cows, Boys, etc.

Noun-Countable & Uncountable

Types	Definitions	Examples
Countable Noun	These are the names of objects, people, etc. that we can count.	Book, Apple, Doctor, Horse, etc.
Uncountable Noun	These are the names of things which we can't count. They may mainly denote substance or abstract things.	Wealth, Oil, Sugar, Gold, Honesty, etc.

Noun Cases

The case of a noun tells us about the position of that noun or pronoun in a sentence. There are 5 cases:

<table>
<tr><th>Cases</th><th>Definitions</th></tr>
<tr><td>Nominative Case</td><td>A noun is said to be in the nominative case if it's the subject of a verb.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Ex: I forgot my watch.

Subject/Nominative Case = I
Verb = forgot</td></tr>
<tr><td>Objective Case</td><td>Nouns or Pronouns are said to be in the objective case if they are the direct object of verbs or the object of the preposition.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Ex: The boy ate an apple.

"an apple" is the object of the verb.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Dative Case</td><td>A noun is said to be in the dative case if it is the indirect object of the verb.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Ex: He gave an assignment to me.

Verb = gave
Direct Object = an assignment
Indirect Object in the dative case = me
Ex: He wrote the letter for him.

Verb = wrote
Direct Object = letter
Indirect Object in the dative case = her</td></tr>
<tr><td>Possessive Case</td><td>A noun is said to be in the possessive case if it denotes position or ownership.</td></tr>
</table>

Ex: This is your pencil. Possessive Case = your	
Vocative Case	A noun or pronoun is said to be in the vocative case if it's used to call (or to get the attention of a person).
Ex: Mr. Singh, people are waiting for you in the hall. Vocative Case = Mr. Singh	

Pronoun

Pronoun is defined as a word that is used instead of a noun or a noun phrase. It's a word that we use to refer to someone or something when we don't need to use a noun often, because the person or thing has been mentioned earlier.

Ex: It, he, something, myself, etc.

Types of Pronoun

Pronouns can be classified into different types based on their functions:

Types	Definitions	Examples
Relative Pronoun	These are the pronouns that are used to relate 1 part of the sentence to another.	That, Which, Where, Why, What, Whom, & Whose.
• The cyclist who won the race trained hard. • The book when it was finally returned was torn & stained. • The police need details that would help identify the robber. • This is the place where we visited. • I would like to take you to a cafe which serves excellent coffee.		
Possessive Pronoun	These are the pronouns that are used to show possession.	Mine, Yours, His, Her, Theirs, & Its.
• He would not believe him. • Did you see his blue T-shirt? • That's ours. Please don't touch it. • I lost my favorite pen.		
Reflexive Pronoun	These are the pronouns that are used to refer back to the subject in the sentence.	Myself, Yourself, Herself, Himself, Oneself, Itself, Ourselves, Themselves,

		& Yourselves.
• We don't have to go out. We can fix dinner ourselves. • You are too young to go out by yourself. • He wanted to eat something delicious. So he baked a cake for himself. • I was in a hurry. So I washed the car myself.		
Demonstrative Pronoun	These are the pronouns that are used to point to specific objects.	This, That, These, & Those.
• This was my grandfather's wristwatch. • Are those your shoes? • There's no one for this? • That was such an interesting place. • These are nice looking jackets.		
Interrogative Pronoun	These are the pronouns that are used to ask questions.	Who, What, When, Why, & Where.
• I wonder what we're doing tomorrow. • What is your friend's name? • Which color do you prefer? • I am wondering who will be at the party? • What do you want for your birthday?		
Indefinite Pronoun	These are the pronouns that don't refer to any particular person, place or thing.	Someone, Somebody, Somewhere, Something, Anyone, Anybody, Anywhere, Anything, No one, Nobody, Nowhere, Everyone, Everybody, Everywhere, Everything, Each, None, Few, & Many.
• Many are called, but few are chosen. • Somebody ate my sandwich. • Everyone says he is ugly.		
Personal Pronoun	These are the simple pronouns that are used to substitute proper names.	I, You, He, She, We, They, Him, Her, Us, & Them.
• You need to stop lying to me. • We would love for you to join us. • Come look at my dog! He has climbed to the top of that tree. • He often reads until late at night. • Are we friends or not?		
Subject Pronoun	These are the pronouns that perform	I, You, We, He, She, It,

	the action in a sentence.	They, & One.
• It is raining again.		
Object Pronoun	These are the pronouns that receive the action in a sentence.	Me, Us, Him, Her, & Them.
• Will you please tell them to come in? • He told you a lie about where he was Saturday.		
Reciprocal Pronoun	These are the pronouns that are used to express a mutual relationship.	Each other, & One another.
• John & Mary hate each other. • The 10 prisoners were all blaming one another. • Why don't you believe in each other? • They can't see each other.		
Intensive Pronoun	These are the same as reflexive pronouns, with the only difference being that we can remove the intensive pronoun from the sentence, & the sentence would still make sense.	Myself, Yourself, Himself, Herself, Itself, Ourselves, Yourselves, & Themselves.
• Mike himself built that house. • The Prime Minister himself appeared at the rally. • The people themselves wanted a democracy. • The student made the project themself. • You need to find the answer yourself.		

Adjective

An adjective is a part of speech that can be used to describe or provide more information about the noun or pronoun that acts as the subject in a sentence. Adjectives are found either after the verb or before the noun.

Degrees of Comparison

When an adjective changes into the form for to show comparison, they are called the degrees of comparison. The degrees of comparison are classified into 3 categories:

- **Positive degree of comparison:** The positive degree of an adjective is the adjective in its simple form. It's used to denote the mere existence of some quality. Ex:

"He is taller than his father."

In the above mentioned sentence, the adjective is "tall". The form "tall" is said to be in the positive degree of comparison.

- **Comparative degree of comparison:** The comparative degree of an adjective is used when 2 things or 2 sets of things are compared. Ex:

"Sam is taller than his father."

The form "taller" is said to be in the comparative degree of comparison as we're comparing Sam's height to his father's height.

- **Superlative degree of comparison:** The superlative degree of an adjective denotes the highest degree of the quality. It's used when more 2 things or sets of things are compared. Ex:

"Sam is the tallest in the class."

The adjective "tallest" is said to be in the superlative degree as Sam's height is compared to everyone's height in the class.

1. **Formation of comparative degree by adding "er":**

Positive	Comparative
Sweet	Sweeter
Kind	Kinder
Great	Greater

2. **Formation of superlative degree by adding "est":**

Positive	Superlative
Sweet	Sweetest
Kind	Kindest
Great	Greatest

3. **Formation of the comparatives/superlatives when the positive ends in 'y':**

Positive	Comparative	Superlative

Happy	Happier	Happiest
Wealthy	Wealthier	Wealthiest

4. **<u>Formation of comparatives/superlatives when the positive ends in a consonant</u>:**

Positive	**Comparative**	**Superlative**
Red	Redder	Reddest
Thin	Thinner	Thinnest

5. **<u>Formation of comparatives/superlatives when the adjective has more than 2 syllables</u>:**

Positive	**Comparative**	**Superlative**
Beautiful	More Beautiful	Most Beautiful
Difficult	More Difficult	Most Difficult

6. **<u>Irregular forms of comparison</u>:** Some adjectives are compared irregularly, i.e. the comparative & superlatives aren't formed from their positive adjectives.

Positive	**Comparative**	**Superlative**
Good	Better	Best
Bad	Worse	Worst
Much	More	Most

7. **<u>Interchange in degrees of comparison</u>:** It's possible to change the degree of comparison without changing the meaning of a sentence.

Degrees	**Words**	**Examples**
Positive	Big	No other city in India is so big as Kolkata.
Comparative	Bigger	Kolkata is bigger than any other city in India.
Superlative	Biggest	Kolkata is the biggest city in India.

Types of Adjective

Adjectives can be divided into different categories based on the functions when used in a sentence. The different types of adjectives are:

Types	Definitions	Examples
Possessive Adjective	These adjectives, like possessive pronouns, are used to show or represent position of a quality.	My, Your, His, Her, Their, It's, Whose, etc.
Interrogative Adjective	These adjectives are used to modify a noun or a pronoun by asking a question. There are only a few adjectives that can be termed as interrogative adjectives.	Whose, What, & Which.
Demonstrative Adjective	These are mainly used to describe the position of a subject (a noun or a pronoun) in space or time.	This, That, These, & Those.
Compound Adjective	These consist of 2 or more adjectives that are combined together to form an adjective that can be used to modify the subject.	Cotton-tailed, Curly-hair, Absent-minded, etc.